

Memorandum of Understanding
between
the Government of Georgia and
the Government of the United States of America on
Educational Cooperation

The Government of Georgia and the Government of the United States of America (hereafter individually referred to as "the Georgian Participant" or "the U.S. Participant" or jointly referred to as "the Participants"), recognizing the value to both countries of enhanced mutual understanding and respect, and desiring to continue and strengthen existing ties of friendship and mutual understanding and to develop cooperation in the field of education on the basis of mutual interests, have reached the following understanding:

Section 1

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (hereafter "MOU") is to strengthen and enhance existing ties between the Participants in connection with the implementation of the Fulbright Academic Exchange Program for students and scholars (hereafter "Fulbright Program") in education, science and research based on circumstances that are mutually beneficial. This MOU is also designed to recognize anticipated financial support from the Participants towards the Fulbright Program for the inclusion of scholarships for Georgian graduate students.

Section 2

The Participants expect their participation in the Fulbright Program to encourage contacts and exchanges at all educational levels, and in all fields of study and research, through the establishment of close ties between the citizens of Georgia and the United States of America (hereafter "United States"), and between the public and private educational, teaching and research institutions and universities in the two countries.



Section 3

The Participants intend to encourage and facilitate educational activities that would strengthen good relations between the two countries, including through support for academic scholarships and grants to promote student and scholar exchange programs.

Section 4

Each Participant intends to assist in the provision of information about its respective educational systems and practices, facilities, courses of instruction, and opportunities for study and exchange which may be of interest to the other.

Section 5

The Participants plan to facilitate direct contacts with the relevant ministries, secretariats and other public bodies, local authorities, non-governmental organizations, professional associations and private organizations, individuals and groups within their respective countries.

Section 6

Each Participant intends to process any applications for travel, entry, residence, and exit for the students and scholars of the other Participant's country in accordance with existing laws, regulations and procedures.

Section 7

In carrying out this MOU, the Participants intend to coordinate the funding, management and implementation of the Fulbright Program in Georgia. The Participants further intend to organize the establishment of a bi-national Fulbright Program Selection Committee (hereafter "Selection Committee"), to be convened as necessary to conduct interviews of all Georgian candidates and to select and submit nominations to the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board of the United States. The Participants intend for the composition of the Selection Committee to be commensurate with Selection Committee Terms of Reference to be approved by the Participants. Annual Fulbright Program guidelines and grantee selection criteria are expected to be based on the "Policies of the J. William Fulbright Foreign Scholarship Board", which may be found at <https://eca.state.gov/fulbright/about-fulbright/j-william-fulbright-foreign-scholarship-board-ffsb/ffsb-policies>

Section 8

The Participants plan to explore expanding the Fulbright Program through joint funding to promote a greater exchange of graduate students between the Participants' countries in various fields of study.



Section 9

The Participants plan to fund annually, on a cost share basis, stipends, living allowances, travel costs, and accident and sickness benefits for up to twelve (12) Georgian graduate students for study in the United States. The Participants intend to allocate up to two hundred thousand U.S. dollars (\$200,000) each for this purpose.

Section 10

The Georgian Participant plans to support and manage the scholarships for Georgian graduate students through its International Education Center (IEC) in full coordination with the U.S. Participant's implementing partner in the United States (currently the Institute of International Education).

Section 11

The U.S. Participant intends to continue providing financial support for the exchange of both U.S. and Georgian scholars and for U.S. students.

Section 12

The Participants intend to allocate resources for scholarships for Georgian students and scholars in fields of special interest to the Georgian Participant. The Georgian Participant may change its indicated fields of interest and intends to do so with at least twelve (12) months advance written notice to the U.S. Participant.

Section 13

The Participants intend that the arrangements for cooperation, activities, and exchanges foreseen in this MOU be implemented consistent with the laws and regulations of each Participant's respective country, including those concerning the availability of funds.

Section 14

The Participants intend to exchange information about the implementation of this MOU and to resolve any disputes or ambiguities amicably through consultation between the Participants.

Section 15

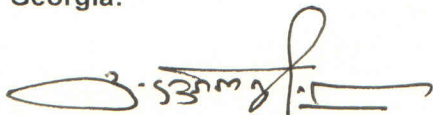
- I. This MOU is intended to commence upon signature by both Participants and to cease after a period of five (5) years. The Participants intend to review and decide whether to continue their cooperation under this MOU prior to the end of that five year period.



2. This MOU may be modified by the mutual written consent of the Participants.
3. This MOU reflects the intentions and understandings of the Participants. It is not an international agreement and does not give rise to legal rights and obligations under international law or the domestic laws of the Participants.
4. This MOU may be discontinued by either Participant, which should be done by informing the other Participant in writing. The Participant wishing to discontinue the MOU should endeavor to provide the other Participant with at least six (6) months written advance notice of its intent to discontinue.

SIGNED at Tbilisi, in duplicate, this July 6, 2016, in the English language.

**For the Government of
Georgia:**



**For the Government of
The United States:**

